

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /081 W
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R 041446Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6422
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, MO, AG, SS

SUBJECT: PRAVDA COMMENTS ON SPANISH SAHARA

1. BREAKING ITS SILENCE ON THE EVENTS IN THE SPANISH SAHARA ("WESTERN SAHARA" IS THE RUSSIAN TERMINOLOGY USED), PRAVDA (NOV 4) REPORTS THE ADOPTION OF THE UNSC RESOLUTION INSTRUCTING SYG WALDHEIM TO UNDERTAKE CONSULTATIONS WITH THE PARTIES CONCERNED. CLAIMING THAT THE "PROBLEMS" OF THE REGION STEM FROM THE RETENTION OF CONTROL BY "COLONIAL AUTHORITIES", PRAVDA POINTS OUT THAT THE UNGA HAS TWICE VOTED FOR THE RIGHTS OF SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE TERRITORY'S PEOPLE. PRAVDA CITES AMBASSADOR MALIK'S STATEMENT THAT THE UNSC RESOLUTION IS DIRECTED TOWARD "THE ELIMINATION OF THIS SERIOUS THREAT TO THE PEACE OF THIS REGION." THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THE UNSC DISCUSSIONS DEMONSTRATED THE CONCIL MEMBERS' BELIEF THAT THE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM LIES IN THE TERMINATION OF "THE COLONIAL REGIME" AND THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE
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REGION'S INHABITANTS. THE SOVIET UNION SUPPORTS THIS

POSITION, ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, AND IS OPPOSED TO ANY
EFFORTS DESIGNED TO DENY THIS RIGHT TO THE "INDIGENOUS
POPULATION OF THE WESTERN SAHARA."

2. COMMENT. THIS BRIEF ITEM IS THE FIRST PUBLIC INDICATION
WE HAVE HAD POINTING TO A SOVIET "TILT" TOWARD ALGIERA, OR
AT LEAST A TILT AWAY FROM MOROCCO ON THIS QUESTION.
MATLOCK

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